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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,823	11/26/2003	Tiebin Zhao	45008	4780
1609	7590	07/13/2005	EXAMINER	
ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P. 1300 19TH STREET, N.W. SUITE 600 WASHINGTON,, DC 20036			VU, HIEN D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/721,823	ZHAO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hien D. Vu	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

2. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Siebens (180).

The disclosure of Siebens provides a complete response to each and every element set forth in the claims. For example, figs. 2-3 shows a body with first and second sections (80, 120), a mid-section 72, a transition shoulders 122 between the first end section 80 and the mid section 72, a face wall 112 and a plurality of radial indicator ribs 110, an abutment surface (not labeled) laterally offset from the face wall of the transition shoulder and adapted to abut a portion of a mating electrical connector.

As to claim 2, each abutment surface of the ribs forms a step with the face wall.

As to claim 3, the ribs extends outwardly from the mid-section beyond all portions of the body.

As to claim 4, the abutment surfaces are substantially perpendicular to the outer surface of the mid-section.

As to claim 5, the body is formed of dielectric material and mid-section includes an outer conductive jacket.

As to claim 6, the ribs are formed as a unitary one-piece member with the outer conductive jacket.

As to claim 7, the mating connector is a high voltage cable connector.

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As to claim 8, a ground connection (not labeled) is disposed on the mid section.

As to claims 9-15, the claims have substantially similar features as claims 1-8, therefore, they are rejected under the similar rationale.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 16-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siebens in view of Siebens prior art figs. 1.

As to claim 16, Siebens discloses substantially the claimed invention except for the second connector having a port receiving the first end section of the first connector and a cuff terminating the port being received in the step of the first connector with an end portion of the cuff in close proximity with the abutment surface of the rib. Siebens prior art fig. 1 shows a second connector 30 having port receiving a first end 80 of a first connector and a cuff 70 terminating the port being received in the step of the first connector with a cuff to be close proximity with an abutment surface of the ribs. It would have been obvious to modify the connector of Siebens by provide a second connector with connector with features as described, as taught by Siebens fig. 1, in order to provide better mating connector for the connector assembly.

As to claims 17-23 the claims have substantially similar features as claims 2-8, therefore they are rejected under the similar rationale.

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As to claims 24-26, the claims recite the method steps substantially corresponding to the features of claims 16-23, therefore they are rejected under the similar rationale.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hein D. Vu at telephone number (571) 272-2016.

Vu/ds

06/28/05



**HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**